

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A carrier arrangement for a fishing rod and reel configured to be mounted to a carrying vehicle, said carrier arrangement comprising:

a carrier box having a lid portion and a base portion configurable between open and closed configurations, wherein each of the lid portion and the base portion comprise edge portions;

said carrier box interiorly configured to receive and support a fishing reel and a proximate portion of a fishing rod connected thereto, said carrier box being further configured to be substantially weather-tight in the closed configuration;

an access aperture through said carrier box, said access aperture configured to permit a portion of the fishing rod connected to the fishing reel to project outside the carrier box when in the closed configuration, wherein the access aperture is formed between the edge portions of the lid portion and base portion when the carrier box is in the closed configuration; [[and]]

a clamping arrangement, said clamping arrangement configured to releasably fasten upon a vehicular carrier rack,

a pliable buffer arranged within an interior of said access aperture, said pliable buffer comprising at least two mating portions extending across the entirety of the access aperture in the closed configuration and adapted to form-fit about a portion of the fishing rod positioned therein and selectively manufactured from a material that forms a weather-resistant barrier between an interior and exterior of said carrier box in the closed configuration when a fishing rod is installed therein.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Original) The carrier arrangement of claim 9 wherein a portion of said carrier box is adapted to form a stand thereby accommodating use of said carrier box as a free-standing storage arrangement for at least one fishing rod and reel when said carrier box is detached from a vehicular carrier rack.

13. (Original) The carrier arrangement of claim 9 wherein said lid portion and said base portion are hinged together for pivotation relative one to the other and a seal arrangement is provided between mating lip portions of said lid and base portions for affecting a seal therebetween in the closed configuration.

14. (Original) The carrier arrangement of claim 9 wherein said carrier box tapers toward a forward end thereof for aerodynamic purposes when installed on a carrying vehicle.

15. (Previously presented) The carrier arrangement of claim 14 wherein said access aperture is formed through said carrier box at said forward end.

16. (Previously presented) The carrier arrangement of claim 9, wherein said carrier box having drainage holes located in the bottom of said base portion.

17. (Previously presented) The carrier arrangement of claim 9 comprising at least one additional access aperture.

18. (Previously presented) The carrier arrangement of claim 11 wherein said anchor arrangement has a top portion for securing said distal end of said fishing rod, wherein the height of the said top portion and said access apertures are of substantially the same level so that a fishing rod is substantially level to a roof of said vehicle when said carrier arrangement is mounted thereon.

19. (Previously presented) The carrier arrangement of claim 9 wherein said access aperture is located in said front end of said carrier box and forms a substantially rectangular shape when said carrier box is in said closed position.

20. (Previously presented) The carrier arrangement of claim 19 wherein said access aperture is sized to carry more than one fishing rod within said access aperture.

21. (Currently amended) A carrier arrangement for a fishing rod and reel configured to be mounted to a carrying vehicle, said carrier arrangement comprising:

a carrier box having a lid portion and a base portion configurable between open and closed configurations;

said carrier box interiorly configured to receive and support a fishing reel and a proximate portion of a fishing rod connected thereto, said carrier box being further configured to be substantially weather-tight in the closed configuration;

an access aperture through said carrier box, said access aperture configured to permit a portion of the fishing rod connected to the fishing reel to project outside the carrier box when in the closed configuration; [[and]]

a clamping arrangement, said clamping arrangement configured to releasably fasten upon a vehicular carrier rack[[,]]; and

an anchor arrangement comprising one or more concave grooves on a top surface of the anchor arrangement for receiving one or more fishing rods, wherein the anchor arrangement is separate from said carrier box and attached to said vehicular rack a distance away from said carrier box for securing a distal end of a fishing rod installed in said carrier box.